

नदी के सिंचाई वाले क्षेत्र में एक सहकारी चोनी कारखाना खोलने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर दिचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है तथा इससे क्या लाभ होने की संभावना है?

स्वाध, छपि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्ना-साहिब शिन्दे) : (क) जो नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न हो नहीं उठता ।

#### Exploratory Tubewells Organisation

1619. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee of the Ministry some time back, it was suggested that the work of actual boring of tubewells in the various States may also be undertaken by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisations of the Government of India; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). No specific suggestion to this effect has been made at the meetings of the Informal Consultative Committee of the present Lok Sabha for this Ministry although suggestions for accelerating the groundwater development programme have been made. The primary function of the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is groundwater exploration in the different parts of the country with a view to delineate areas

having groundwater potentiality for development by tubewell irrigation. However, it has, from time to time, been assisting the various State Governments in the construction of production tubewells. With the strengthening of the drilling organisations under the State Governments, the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is expected to concentrate on its primary objective.

#### Exploratory Tubewells Organisation

1620. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer, Exploratory Tubewells Organisation of the Government of India propose to shift one of his Divisions at Varanasi to the South;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chief Engineer has visited the South various times for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) It is not a fact that the Varanasi Division of the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is contemplated for shifting to South India. However, the Division now located at Roorkee is proposed to be located in Madras to resume groundwater exploration during 1968-69.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In Madras the groundwater exploration work had to be stopped in early 1964 and rigs diverted to Rajasthan for undertaking construction of production tubewells on behalf of the State Government in the